

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: August 15, 2005

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:35 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:33 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Dane Mahern, Chairman
Ron Gibson
Scott Keller
Lance Langsford
Angela Mansfield
Jackie Nytes
Mike Speedy

Absent Members

Marilyn Pfisterer
Steve Talley

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 397, 2005- amends the Code regarding the Flood Control Zoning Ordinance to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps and fixes a time when the same shall take effect
"Do Pass" Vote: 7-0

BUDGET HEARING

Overview – Director
Historic Preservation Commission
DMD Division of Administration

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council met on Monday, August 15, 2005. Chair Dane Mahern called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following members present: Ron Gibson, Scott Keller, Lance Langsford, Angela Mansfield, Jackie Nytes, and Mike Speedy. Absent were Marilyn Pfisterer and Steve Talley. Also present was Bart Brown, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Council.

Chair Mahern asked for consent to rearrange the budget hearing. Consent was given.

PROPOSAL NO. 397, 2005- amends the Code regarding the Flood Control Zoning Ordinance to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps and fixes a time when the same shall take effect

Mike Peoni, Administrator of the Division of Planning for the Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD), said this proposal is pertaining to the same map changes that were in Proposal No. 242, 2005 and approved by the full Council. He said through a clerical error, the wrong version of Proposal No. 242, 2005 was actually signed. He said the map changes were made to Buffalo, Little Buck, Devon, and Brookshire Creeks. He said the effective date in the existing ordinance has changed; therefore, the ordinance needs to be amended. He said the flood maps are referred to by a map date and the current map date is January 5, 2001. This date needs to be amended to July 5, 2005.

Councillor Speedy asked if flood plan maps are reducing as a result of accurate measurements. Mr. Peoni said overall fewer homes will be in flood districts. Councillor Speedy asked who homeowners can contact to find out if they are still in a flood district. Peter Rasor, Division of Compliance and Permits (DOC), said homeowners can contact the permit division with the DOC. Councillor Speedy asked if homeowners also need to contact their insurance company. Mr. Rasor said the insurance carrier will also be provided with the same information.

Councillor Langsford asked if there is a fee on flood district inquiries. Mr. Rasor replied in the negative.

Councillor Nytes asked if the incorrect version was voted on before the Council. Mr. Peoni said the correct version was explained and voted on. He said the wrong electronic version was sent to the Council office and signed. He said their legal counsel felt it would be best to reintroduce the proposal with those changes that were included in the incorrect version.

Councillor Nytes moved, seconded by Councillor Langsford, to send Proposal No. 397, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

BUDGET HEARING

Overview – Director

Maury Plambeck, Director of DMD, went over the accomplishments of DMD, which can be found in DMD Milestones (Exhibit A, on file in the Council office). He went on to give the 2006 budget overview presentation of DMD (Exhibit B, on file in the Council office). The key points are as follows:

- Community Development and the Division of Economic Development/Real Estate have been combined into one department known as Community Economic Development.
- Division of Compliance continues to work to make sure their developments are in accordance with the local and state laws. There has been an increase in inspections in 2004 and 2005.

Councillor Langsford asked how follow-ups are done on violations. Mr. Plambeck said routine follow-ups are done and citizens who do not come into compliance after a couple of follow-ups are sent to court. Councillor Langsford asked if DMD is expecting another peak, due to excluded cities now being able to cite violations. Mr. Plambeck said it may be possible. He said DMD already cites violations in excluded cities, and their police officers are another way to help cite violations.

Councillor Mansfield asked if DMD has looked into revising the ordinance to create fees for violators of illegal signs. Mr. Plambeck replied in the affirmative and said it is somewhat complicated because the people who are putting up the signs are hired to put the signs up.

[Clerk's note: Councillors Gibson and Keller arrived at 5:55 p.m.]

- The Planning Division has been working with the Comprehensive Plan Advisory committee and hopes to have the plan completed and adopted early 2006.
- The Township Administrators are now known as the Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons
- DMD has a budget reduction of 7.75 full-time employees (FTEs). Some employees are being moved to other departments.
- DMD's budget does not depend upon tax revenue. The 2006 proposed budget has only 10.6% of the budget from tax revenues.

- The remainder of DMD's revenue comes from grants (62.5%) and fees and charges (approximately 27%).
- DMD's proposed net decrease is \$266,590 (-0.7%).

Mr. Plambeck clarified that the Property Maintenance increase is actually a change in character and the Internal Chargebacks relate to the Mayor's Action Center (MAC). The MAC's budget has been reduced by \$380,000.

DMD Division of Administration

Galen Himmelheber, CFO for DMD, gave a brief overview of the Administrative Services budget (Exhibit C, attached). He said there has been some reorganization within the division. The Administrative Services division now consists of the Director's Office and Financial Services. He said the most notable change in the 2006 budget is the reduction of two positions and the movement of one position over to the new division (Community Economic Development). He said the two positions that are actually reduced in the Administrative Services budget are transferred positions that are currently vacant in other departments. He said the majority of the reductions (-\$212,916) in this budget are related to the reorganization or the reduction in staff.

Bart Brown asked what is being used to pay debt services. Mr. Himmelheber answered community development block grants.

Councillor Nytes asked if building security is being deducted out of the budget due to the system-wide change. Bob Clifford, City Controller, replied in the affirmative.

Historic Preservation Commission

David Baker, Administrator, represented the 2006 proposed budget for Historic Preservation (Exhibit D, on file in the Council office). He said the commission only reviews demolition and new construction. Irvington is their biggest historic district, with approximately 1,700 properties, which has increased the total properties in the Preservation Commission protection by 40%. He said over the last year, the Commission has approved 15 new single family houses and 27 units of multi-family buildings in historic districts. He said the Commission's biggest challenge is to find ways to continue the level of support, protection and service the community has expected; while facing increased responsibility and budget constraints. Mr. Baker said the proposed 2006 budget maintains their present level of six staff members. He said there is an increase in supplies due to the need for permanent file folders. The folders are needed because the Commission is adding districts. He also stated that, despite the increases, the Commission managed to keep the budget from rising by eliminating all travel and training.

Councillor Nytes said she is concerned about eliminating training funds because their employees' job is somewhat complicated. Mr. Baker said there are local trainings that employees may attend.

Bart Brown asked if they anticipate a steady increase in collecting service fees. Mr. Baker said the Commission may see a slight increase because of the rate of new construction. Bart Brown asked if the trend will continue. Mr. Baker said it varies.

Councillor Gibson asked if the increase in supplies is only due to the purchase of file folders. Mr. Baker replied in the affirmative and said this is a one-time purchase.

Councillor Nytes asked in the event the Commission is able to exceed revenues if the balance goes to a departmental fund balance. Jeff Seidenstein, Budget Manager for the Controller's Office, said Historic Preservation has a sub-fund within the Consolidated County Fund. Councillor Nytes asked if revenue continues to increase, if money could be restored into travel funds. Mr. Clifford said it is to the discretion of the Council.

Bart Brown asked for clarification on the increase in group insurance. Mr. Seidenstein said that increase is due to one person in the Commission getting married.

Councillor Nytes asked for clarification on the decrease in mileage. Mr. Baker said the Commission uses pool cars.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Metropolitan Development Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dane Mahern, Chair
Metropolitan Development Committee

DM/as

